

Remarks

Status Of Claims

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6 and 11 are amended herein. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and Request for Reconsideration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. No new matter is added.

Claim Objections

Claims 2 and 6-15 are objected to as allegedly containing informalities. Claims 2, 6 and 11 are specifically objected to as allegedly lacking antecedent basis for the expression “the number of sets”.

Claims 1, 6 and 11 are amended as set forth above to recite “said print head comprising a number of sets of print elements”. Accordingly, proper antecedent basis exists and the respective rejections of claims 2 (dependant from claim 1), 6 and 11 are now moot. Applicants requests the withdraw of these objections.

Response to Claim Rejections under 37 C.F.R. § 102(b)

The Office Action maintains the previous rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Yano et al. (US 6352327; “Yano ‘327”). Further, the Office Action asserts Applicants' arguments filed 4/24/06 have been fully considered but were not persuasive. The Office Actions asserts the recitation cited in claims 1 and 16 has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. Applicants respectfully maintain their previous traverse of the rejection of claims 1-17.

However, in order to advance the prosecution of this application claims 1, 6 and 11 have been amended to recite "said print head comprising a number of sets of print elements" rendering these rejections moot.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 16 and respectfully assert the body of the claim contains recitation of the "print head". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

In view of the above, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully assert that the application is now believed to be in a form for allowance and such action is hereby solicited.

If any points remain an issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through an additional personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5326. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: October 12, 2006

By: 

Eric G. Wright
Registration No. 48,045
(202) 857-7887 Telephone
(202) 857-7929 Facsimile

Correspondence Address:
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281-2101